THE ROYAL TUTOR

Chapter 35

Higasa Akai

KNOCK
KNOCK
LET ME SEE NOW...
I REQUIRE THE TEXTS FOR PRINCE LICHT'S LESSONS TOMORROW...
SKRITCH
SKRITCH
AH, YES. AND THEN I MUST COMPILE A LIST OF BOOKS FOR PRINCE BRUNO...
KACHAK
HEINE! THIS HOMEWORK HAS CONFOUNDED ME! EXPLAIN IT TO ME!
OH MY. ALL OF YOUR HIGHNESSES ARE HERE?
EH-HEH-HEHH
I NEED HOMEWORK HELP TOOOO!
ME TOO...
I WAS HOPING YOU MIGHT REVIEW A THESIS I WROTE...
I WILL MEET WITH YOU ONE AT A TIME.
PLEASE COME IN.
STOP
.....
?

Chapter 35

The Overworked Tutor?

...DO YOU REALLY THINK SO...?
...EH...?
DROP
GLOOM
しょぼ....
ACK!
YOU WOULD DO WELL TO WATCH YOUR WORDS YOURSELF, LICHT! THAT KIND OF HONESTY COULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED RU—
WAAAH!
BAD LEONIE! HOWEVER IT LOOKS, YOU CAN'T SAY IT LIKE THAT!
THOSE ARE PRECISELY WHAT THEY APPEAR TO BE: STACKS OF BOOKS.
MAY I ASK WHERE YOU PURCHASED IT?
A-AHEM. IT IS A SPLENDID ROOM, TO BE SURE...
PARTICU-LARLY, THIS TABLE AND CHAIR SET MODELED TO RESEMBLE STACKS OF BOOKS. HOW UTTERLY NOVEL!

WAIT...
YOU DON'T HAVE THEM TIDY YOUR ROOM, TEACH?
AS MUCH OF THE CLUTTER CONSISTS OF THE TOOLS OF MY TRADE, I DECLINED THE OFFER.
I PREFER TO BE EVER AWARE OF THE WHEREABOUTS OF MY THINGS...
WELL, THE MAIDS CLEAN THE PALACE TOP TO BOTTOM EVERY DAY.
AM I TO UNDERSTAND YOUR HIGHNESSES HAVE NEVER SEEN A CLUTTERED ROOM...?
...NH!
PAT
YES, WELL, MUCH TIME HAS PASSED SINCE THEN...
CHAPTER II
BUT...IT USED TO BE SPARKLY CLEAN...
URK!
MOREOVER, I HAVE BEEN RATHER PREOCCUPIED WITH MY WORK AS OF LATE.
I-ISN'T THAT...
I DARESAY I HAVEN'T ANY TIME TO SPARE FOR CLEANING...
THERE SEEMS TO BE NO END TO IT.

HAD HIS MASTER TAKE HIM TO THE CHURCH FOR TEACHING EXPERIENCE
THREW A TANTRUM OVER HEINE'S FORMER STUDENTS
...ALL MY FAULT...?
SHOCK
HAD TEACHER HELP HIM WITH HIS RETURN TO MILITARY ACADEMY
HAS TEACH ACCOMPANY HIM TO HIS SHIFTS AT THE CAFÉ

MURMUR
MURMUR
MURMUR
MURMUR
?
UGH... NOTHING ELSE FOR IT, THEN.
I... AGREE.
EHH?
NOW WE HAVE TO DO IT.

VWIP
VWIP
VWIP

PRO-
FESSOR
HEINE'S
ROOM-
CLEAN-
ING
CREW...
...AS-
SEM-
BLE!!
DUN-DUN-DUNN
!!?

CLEANING... CREW...?
BLANK
PLEASE, MASTER, RETURN TO YOUR WORK.
YES. WE HAVE TAKEN IT UPON OURSELVES TO TIDY YOUR ROOM!
I CAN'T DENY THAT YOU USE A LOT OF TIME ON ME.
HMPH!
I FEEL KINDA RESPONSIBLE, SO YEAH.
WE WERE ABOUT TO ASK FOR MORE OF YOUR TIME TOO...
OH, BUT I COULD NOT ASK NOBLES SUCH AS YOURSELVES TO DO SUCH A THING AS CLEAN...
NOT TO MENTION, HAVE YOUR HIGHNESSES EVER SO MUCH AS HELD A BROOM BEFORE?
HARRUMPH!
GIVEN YOUR STATIONS AS ROYALS...
.....
YOU USE A MOP LIKE, "WHOOSH! SWOOSH!"
I'VE... SEEN IT DONE...
A MODERN SEX SYMBOL HAS TO KNOW HIS WAY AROUND INTERIOR DESIGN.
THIS DOES NOT BODE WELL...

BABBLE
I'VE TAKEN THE AREA OF THE ROOM AND FACTORED IN THE EXPECTED FOOT TRAFFIC OF FOUR PEOPLE...
...TO PLOT THE MOST EFFICIENT ROUTES, AND—
BABBLE
Y-YEAH ...?
FWIP
YEAH!
PLEASE LEAVE THOSE CONCERNS TO ME, MASTER!
I HAVE DEVISED THE PERFECT CLEANING PLAN!
EXCUSE ME!
SHWIP
YES, LEONHARD?
THAT'S CONFUS-ING!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND A SINGLE THING YOU SAID!
BUT YOU SOUNDED DREADFULLY SMART AND COOL SAYING IT, DEAREST BROTHER!
HE RAISED HIS HAND TO SAY THAT...!!?

AS FOR WHERE EVERYTHING SHALL BE PUT AWAY, WE WILL ASK YOU, MASTER.
THAT WAY, IT WILL NOT CAUSE YOU ANY INCONVENIENCE.
SOMEONE SOUNDS MORE PLEASED THAN HE MIGHT ADMIT...
GLINT
HEH.
DON'T WORRY YOUR LITTLE HEAD. YOU NEED ONLY ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH MY INSTRUCTIONS.
PLEASE ALLOW US TO REPAY YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY THIS ONCE.
I SUBMIT THE PLAN FOR YOUR APPROVAL.
AT ONCE, MASTER!
SHWIP
WELL... I SUPPOSE IF YOU INSIST, I SHALL ACCEPT YOUR KIND OFFER...
I WILL LEAVE YOU TO IT..
...AND THIS PLAN DOES SEEM AS THOUGH IT COULD BE QUICKLY CONCLUDED.
I ADMIT THAT I AM PLEASED THEY WOULD DONATE THEIR EFFORTS FOR MY SAKE...
.....
FLAP

AHEM! FIRST, WE WILL CLEAR THE ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR.
LEONHARD AND I WILL SEE TO THE BOOKS.
LICHT AND KAI WILL RELOCATE EVERYTHING ELSE.
GOT IT!
ALL RIGHT! I'LL DO MY BEST!
SHFF
...WAIT, LEONHARD.
STOP
HUH?
COMPLETELY...
...UNACCEPTABLE!!
RAWR
BOOKS ARE TO BE ARRANGED BY PUBLISHER FIRST, THEN BY SERIES AND AUTHOR!! THIS IS BASIC KNOWLEDGE!!
SNATCH
FURTHERMORE, THEY MUST BE ARRANGED WITH THE TALLEST BOOKS ON THE RIGHT, WITH THE HEIGHT GRADUALLY DECREASING AS ONE MOVES TO THE LEFT!
START OVER!!
AHH...
THERE IS NO CHANCE OF THIS CONCLUDING QUICKLY...
EHH!?

YOU START BY MOVING EVERYTHING INTO THE GENERAL AREA WHERE YOU WANT IT TO END UP.
THERE WE GO.
YOU CAN EASILY REARRANGE THE SMALLER THINGS LAAATER.
HE SEEMS USED TO CLEANING ...?
?
GEEEEZ. YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, BRUNIE.
OH. YOU MAY LEAVE THAT BOX WHERE YOU FOUND IT.
IT IS A PRIVATE ITEM OF MINE.
OH, I GET IT... WE MEN HAVE OUR NEEDS.
GRIN
GRIN
YOU SHOULD FIND A BETTER HIDING SPOT THOUGH!
I WILL HAVE YOU KNOW, IT DOES NOT CONTAIN ANY LEWD BOOKS.
GLARE
HUH!!? HOW DID YOU KNOW WHAT I WAS THINKING!?
OH, IT WAS ALL TOO OBVIOUS.

HUH? WAIT A SEC.
IF IT'S PRIVATE, BUT NOT NAUGHTY... THAT MEANS...
I-I COULD NOT SAY...
ARE THEY BAD?
BROTHER DEAREST? WHAT IS A "LEWD BOOK"?
HEY! YOU SAY THAT LIKE I'M A PERVERT!
IS THAT NOT WHAT YOU ARE?
PLEASE LEAVE THE BOX ON THAT SMALL TABLE
GEEZ FINE
...THIS BOX MIGHT HOLD THE KEY TO TEACH'S SECRETS ...!!?
SNEAK
AH!
STOP THAT!
POP
ぽっ

...WHAT'S THIS?
GOOD-BYE GIFTS AND LETTERS.
THINGS MY FORMER PUPILS GAVE ME WHEN WE PARTED.
...THAT'S ALL...?
NUOOO! I'M SORRY! FORGIVE ME, TEEEACH!!
OH DEAR. I'M OVERCOME WITH THIS URGE TO SAY IT... SHALL I REVEAL IT...?
FLAP
WHISPER
WHAT WAS IT YOU DIDN'T WANT PRINCE BRUNO TO KNOW BECAUSE YOU DO NOT WANT HIM TO BE ANGRY WITH YOU? THAT YOU ARE WORKING AT A CAFE?
FLAP

HEH HEH.
I PRAY THEY ARE DOING WELL...
...MASTER'S FORMER PUPILS...
.....
PRETTY PLEASE?
I SHOULD THINK NOT.
EH!? YOU MET THEM!!?
SHOCK
YES. MASTER TOOK ME TO TEACH THEM FOR A DAY.
IT WAS NOT WITHOUT ITS DIFFICULTIES, BUT THEY WERE SPIRITED, GOOD CHILDREN.
YOU NEEDN'T BE JEALOUS.
YOU ARE A VERY GOOD CHILD, LEONHARD. THAT GOES WITHOUT SAYING.
HMPH!
THEY GET TO BE PRAISED BY DEAREST BROTHER, HUH...?
AND THEY GOT TO BE TAUGHT NOT JUST BY HEINE, BUT BROTHER AS WELL...
BRUNO.
EH HEH HEH!
EH HEH HEH!

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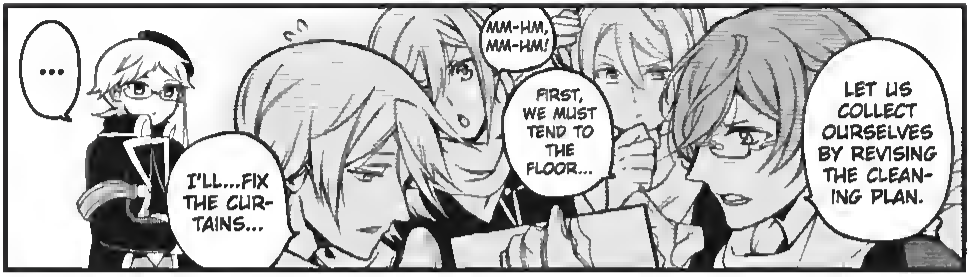
WHAT? BY YOURSELF?
IT'S QUITE FAR, YOU KNOW. IN ANOTHER BUILDING ENTIRELY.
THOSE LOOK HEAVY...
HEH-HEH
OOH!! ME!! I'LL RETURN THEM FOR YOU!

WOOOW. LOOK AT MR. MUSCLES HERE.
I COULD NEVER DO THAT.
HEH HEH HEH...
LEAVE IT TO ME, BROTHER! I HAVE FULL CONFIDENCE IN MY ATHLETIC ABILITY, YOU KNOW!
HOIST
I AM A VERY GOOD CHILD, YOU KNOW! TRY NOT TO BE TOO IMPRESSED, LITTLE BROTHER!
HA HA HA!
UH, THAT WASN'T A COMPLI-MENT.
KACHAK
EXCUSE ME, PRO-FESSOR.
WOULD YOU CARE FOR A CUP OF TEA?
EH?
AH!

HEY, ARE YOU OKAY!?
SLIP
WHOA!
CRASH
WAH!
KYAAAA!
AH! THE CABINET!
LOOK OUT!
WHAM
WAH!
WAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAH!
FOUND... A RAG... TO CLEAN UP THE TEA...
THAT IS A CURTAIN, KAI!
UWAP!
YAA
LEONIE, DON'T GO KNOCKING OVER CHAIRS!!
WATCH IT!
AAH!
AH!
LICHT, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT!?
CLUNK
CLATTER
.....
SHUT
E-EXCUSE ME, THEN...
I AM SO VERY, VERY SORRY...
I CAN CLEAN THIS UP...
NO, NO. WE ARE JUST FORTUNATE NO ONE WAS INJURED.

CHAOS
でろ～ん
WHY ...?
WHYYYYY!?
GLOOM
IT IS NO USE CRYING OVER SPILLED MILK.
GOODNESS ME...
LET US ROLL UP OUR SLEEVES AND AT LEAST RETURN IT TO THE STATE IN WHICH YOUR HIGHNESSES FIRST FOUND IT.
I WILL LEND A HAND MYSELF.

A-ANY-THING BUT THAT...
FWIP
WHO DO YOU THINK WE'VE BEEN CLEANING FOR ALL THIS TIME!?
SIT, SIT.
PLEASE, MASTER, RETURN TO YOUR WORK.
FORTU-NATELY, NO HARM CAME TO YOUR DESK.
SKIIIID
—!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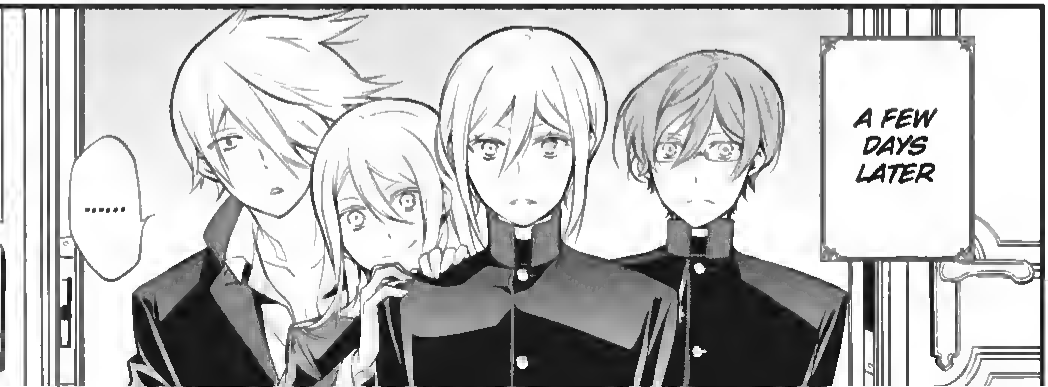
I'LL...FIX THE CUR-TAINS...
MM-HM, MM-HM!
FIRST, WE MUST TEND TO THE FLOOR...
LET US COLLECT OURSELVES BY REVISING THE CLEAN-ING PLAN.

ALL RIGHT!! PRO-FESSOR HEINE'S ROOM-CLEANING CREW...
...ENTER PHASE TWO OF CLEAN-UP!!
YEAH!!

GOOD HEAVENS ...!
WHAT IS YOUR ASSESS-MENT, MASTER?
HAVE WE MISSED ANY-THING?
NOT AT ALL. IT IS PERFECTLY DONE, IN MY VIEW.
EVERYTHING IS ORDERLY AND PLEASANT.
.....
U-UM...
WERE WE OF SOME HELP, THEN...?

IS THIS A...
A PROPER THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME, HEINE...?
.....

YES. YES, OF COURSE.
YOUR HIGH-NESSES ...
...THANK YOU FOR TOILING FOR MY SAKE...
...AND FOR PRESENTING ME WITH SUCH A CLEAN ROOM.
MASTER..


A FEW DAYS LATER
.....

CLUTTERED
こりゃあぁ。
HUH...?
NO.
I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MAKE SUFFICIENT TIME FOR MYSELF, THANK YOU.
ARE YOU... OVER-WORKED AGAIN...?
DON'T TELL ME...
IT NEVER HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH HIS WORK-LOAD...
THESE BOOKS AND THOSE WRITING TOOLS... SO MANY THINGS THAT I NEED AT HAND AND NOWHERE TO PUT THEM...
EVEN SO, WHEN I HAVE LEISURE TIME, MY PERSONAL SPACE BECOMES CLUTTERED BEFORE I KNOW IT...

...THE TYPE OF MAN WHO CAN'T KEEP A ROOM TIDY IN THE FIRST PLACE...!?
HE'S JUST...
BLANK STARE
YOUUU! WE HAD IT ALL TIDY, AND YOU'VE ALREADY RUINED OUR HARD WORK!!
I AM SORRY... THE MESS IS A NATURAL PHENOMENON.

THIS IS NO LAUGHING MATTER, LICHT!! CAN'T YOU BE A LITTLE MO—
WE DIDN'T FIND OUT WHO YOU REALLY ARE, BUT WE FOUND ONE OF YOUR WEAKNESSES!
FIRST YOUR AWFUL ART, AND NOW THIS MAKES TWO!!
HMPH.
ARE YOU SERIOUS, TEACH!? I NEVER WOULD HAVE GUESSED!
AH HA HA!
BROTH-ER!!
X2
CLEANING TOGETHER AGAIN... SOUNDS FUN...
HOW SPLEN-DIDLY STAL-WART...
A MASTER WHO WORKS IN OR-GANIZED CHAOS...
MASTER...
CLATTER
LET'S SEE... I WANT THIS BOOK OVER THERE, AND THIS OVER... WHERE...?
IT'S NOTHING TO GET MAD ABOUT.
NOW, NOW. WE DID DO IT TO THANK HIM FOR ALL HIS HARD WORK.
WHAT!?
...OH WELL...
...I FEEL LIKE I'VE SEEN THEM BEFORE...
HUH...? THIS PHOTO... WHO'S THIS WITH TEACHER...?

WELCOME HOME FROM YOUR LONG DUTIES ABROAD.
IN YOUR ABSENCE...
...THE ROYAL PALACE HAS GROWN RATHER LIVELY...

♦To be continued in the next chapter of The Royal Tutor♦

The Royal Tutor Chapter 35

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